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CLASSIFICATION SECRET

COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT NO.

TOPIC Military Information on KVP Units in Potsdam

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT

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REFERENCES

2

PAGES ENCLOSURES (NO. &amp; TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. On 18 October 1953, [ ] from a KVP captain who came from the former Sachsenhausen concentration camp to Oranienburg for a week-end leave that he was attending a training course at Potsdam-Eiche. The course was attended by 220 KVP officers ranking from junior lieutenant to captain. The commandant of the school was a KVP colonel who was assisted by a lieutenant colonel. The instructions were supervised by two Soviet colonels. Subjects discussed at the school included the organization of the army, the missions of the individual branches of service, the new order of society in the army, the ideological training of the officer corps and the NCO corps. The course was scheduled to be completed on 30 November 1953.<sup>1</sup>

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2. The morning of 22 October, billeting equipment was being detrained at Potsdam railroad station. The equipment was trucked by KVP personnel to the barracks installations on Bohlertstrasse and to the Ruinenberg Kaserne scheduled to be occupied by the KVP.<sup>2</sup>

3. Between 15 and 28 October, the Ruinenberg Kaserne quartered an estimated 1,000 men who wore red-bordered black, black-bordered red and blue epaulets. [ ]

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On various days details of 60 men each were seen leaving the installation for the wooded area on Ruinenberg Hill. Other groups of soldiers were seen conducting aiming practices with rifles. [ ]

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4. Between 20 and 30 October, no training activities were observed during the day at the barracks installation in Golm. During the night some of the windows of the installation were lighted. Sentries with yellow-bordered black, red-bordered black, red and blue epaulets were observed. Since about 22 October, 24 new motor-cycles have been observed in the billeting area. On 26 October, two T-34 tanks were parked there. Motor vehicles seen at the installation between 24 and 30 October

5. Between 23 October and 2 November, the personnel stationed at the Garde-du-Corps Kaserne increased to an estimated total of 150 men, while previously only guard

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personnel had been observed there. The gate on Behlert Strasse was guarded by a sentry with blue collar patches. The gate on Stalin Allee, however, was guarded by a soldier with red-bordered black collar patches. Almost exclusively NCOs with various service colors and a silver A on their epaulets were seen there. There was heavy passenger traffic between the Garde-du-Corps Kaserne and the Leibgardehusaren Kaserne. On 1 November, two details of about 30 men each with blue collar patches marched from the gate on Behlert Strasse to a photographer on Gutenberg Strasse. On 2 November, [REDACTED] 10 tank trucks in the yard of the installation.<sup>4</sup>

6. The northeastern portion of the Leibgardehusaren Kaserne quartered an estimated 250 KVPs, who wore red-bordered black and black-bordered blue collar patches. [REDACTED] a civilian employed at the installation that the unit stationed there consisted of officer candidates and that small groups of such candidates arrived daily. The civilian employees of the unit were paid their salaries by an agency in Brandenburg. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The southwestern portion of the barracks installation quartered a Soviet unit of about 100 men.<sup>4</sup>

7. On 2 November, [REDACTED] the new VP agency which was referred to as "Quartiernutzungsabteilung" moved from the former Garde-du-Corps Kaserne at 26 Stalin Allee to Building No 12 on Allee Strasse.<sup>5</sup>

8. Between 2 and 6 November, the Ruinenberg Kaserne quartered an estimated 700 men. Personnel with black-bordered red and red-bordered blue collar patches were seen. No training activity was observed. Some soldiers were engaged in hauling construction materials and in clearing up the installation.<sup>3</sup>

9. [REDACTED] at the barracks installation in Golm [REDACTED] soldiers with black-bordered red collar patches were seen. [REDACTED]

1. [REDACTED] Comment. These observations indicate that the barracks installation at Golm or Potsdam-Eiche continued to be occupied by KVP personnel until early November 1953. [REDACTED]

2. [REDACTED] Comment. The barracks installation on Behlert Strasse is identical with the Garde-du Corps Kaserne.

3. [REDACTED] Comment. [REDACTED] the Ruinenberg Kaserne [REDACTED] installation quarters various types of units including artillery and tank, belonging to Mechanized Bereitschaft Potsdam.

4. [REDACTED] Comment. A metal "A" is worn by all KVP officer candidates on their epaulets. It is unknown what school or course is located at the Garde-du-Corps Kaserne and the Leibgardehusaren Kaserne. So far, portions of the two installations had been occupied by units of Mechanized Bereitschaft Potsdam. Prior to early 1952, the Leibgardehusaren Kaserne had housed a political school which moved to Berlin-Treptow.

5. [REDACTED] Comment. [REDACTED]

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